

**United States District Court**  
Eastern District of Missouri  
111 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

James G. Woodward  
Clerk of Court

314-244-7900

November 5, 2010

**Press Release**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
SELECTS A NEW MAGISTRATE JUDGE.**

Chief Judge Catherine D. Perry announced today that the district judges of the United States District Court have selected Nannette A. Baker to fill a vacancy for United States Magistrate Judge. The selection was made from nominees submitted by a Merit Selection Panel which consisted of St. Louis area attorneys and lay persons. Baker will fill a vacancy created when Judge Audrey Fleissig was appointed earlier this year to serve as a district judge of this Court, after having served nine years as magistrate judge. The term of office of a magistrate judge is eight years, with the opportunity to renew the appointment for additional terms. Baker's term will begin after clearance by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service. The duty station for this position will be at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse in St. Louis, with some duties performed in the court's division locations in Cape Girardeau and Hannibal.

According to Judge Perry, the selection process generated an excellent pool of highly qualified applicants, from which Judge Baker emerged as the top candidate. "For the judges of this court, it was so gratifying to see the caliber of attorneys who sought this appointment. The job of magistrate judge is both demanding and very important to our system of justice. We know that Judge Baker's experience and exceptional qualifications will make her an asset to our court," stated Judge Perry.

Nannette A. Baker currently serves as a judge on the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Eastern District of Missouri. She has held that position since her appointment in 2004, and served

as Chief Judge of that court from 2008-2009. Before her current position, Judge Baker was a circuit judge of the 22d Judicial Circuit in St. Louis from 1999 to 2004. Earlier in her career, Baker worked in private law practice with the St. Louis firms of Lashly & Baer and later Schlichter, Bogard & Denton. Judge Baker has a long and distinguished record of service to the legal profession and to the St. Louis community, having served in various volunteer capacities with the American Bar Association, the National Association of Women Judges, the Mound City Bar Association and the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. Judge Baker's community service includes positions on the board of directors of Gateway Greening, Inc., Covenant House Missouri, St. Patrick Center, the National Museum of Transport, and SSM Rehabilitation Institute.

Born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Nannette Baker grew up in Liberia, Africa and later lived in Alabama and Tennessee. She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and is a graduate of Saint Louis University School of Law. She is admitted to practice law in both Missouri and Illinois.